



JANUARY 2023



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

The mission of the Church of the Epiphany is to offer a home to
all those who are seeking God's unconditional love.

From the Vicar...

I write this on Friday, January 6, the Day of the Epiphany, the feast day for our church. This morning, we observed the day with what I hope will become a tradition for the Church of the Epiphany in Crestview. We celebrated Holy Eucharist with readings assigned for this day, including the account of the Wise Men from the East paying homage to whom they saw as the King of the Jews, Jesus Christ.

There was not a large congregation gathered at 11 a.m. in the church, but as Jesus told his Apostles, "Anytime two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there among them."

We sang hymns appropriate for the season of Epiphany (including a beautiful solo of "Lo how a rose e'er blooming" sung by Tracy Kueczynski, accompanied by Pat Shew, our organist and choir director) and shared Holy Communion. The service was recorded by Ginny and Randy Bauer for viewing on the Epiphany Facebook page.

Following the service, we hopefully began another tradition at the Church of the Epiphany called "chalking the door." A tradition that dates back hundreds of



years, it includes writing letters, numbers and other symbols on either the door or the lintel above the door during the Season of Epiphany. Michele Dennis told us she observed the practice while she and her husband were stationed in Germany.

Another tradition which began last year at this time is the annual visit by the bishop of the diocese. Many of you will recall the Rt. Rev. J. Russell Kendrick came to Crestview on the eve of Epiphany Day to celebrate my ministry at Epiphany.

This year, he continues this tradition of visiting us during the Epiphany season on Sunday, January 8. He will preach and celebrate Holy Communion at the 10 a.m., meet with the congregation following the service, then meet with the vestry over lunch.

Of course, we will all enjoy lunch as this Sunday will be our monthly potluck luncheon. Normally held on the first Sunday of the month, we moved it to the second Sunday both to be able to share the meal with the bishop, as well as in recognition that the first Sunday of the month was New Year's Day.

The forum, as he calls meeting with the congregations at the churches he visits, will give us an opportunity to hear what the diocese is doing and share with the bishop our hopes, dreams and concerns for the Church of the Epiphany. I'm sure he will be happy to answer questions as well.

I hope each of you will be able to attend the service and meal afterwards this Sunday. You might even consider bringing a friend or neighbor. As always, we will have plenty of food, so please stay and enjoy the fellowship regardless of whether or not you bring a dish.

I am looking forward to our having a wonderful 2023, even if we suffer some bumps and missteps along the way.

Peace be with you,

Father David+

Vestry News

During a brief meeting following the January 1 morning service, Tracy Kueczynski was elected senior warden and Phil Phillips was named junior warden for 2023. In addition, the vestry elected Ginny Bauer as clerk. Laura Hill continues as treasurer, a position to which she was elected at the annual meeting in December. In addition, Dennis Jackson, Jeff Evans and David Bryant will serve as vestry members, the latter through the end of January.

The reason David will leave the vestry at the end of the month is that he has accepted the position of parish administrator effective on February 1. While some details are still to be worked out, David and the vicar have met several times to discuss the position.

Although he will be giving up his seat on the vestry, David will continue to serve at the altar, assisting the clergy during worship. The vicar has also encouraged him to resume his offering of quiches for purchase on a to-be-determined regular basis.

In other business, the junior warden, as property chair, presented as overview of his plans for improvements to the church property. Phil told the vestry that replacements for the main doors to parish hall have been ordered and will soon be installed. These will be metal doors with new locking mechanisms that the contractor is supplying at no additional charge. Phil reported on repairs to the windows and lighting in both the parish hall and St. Joseph Hall. Work on the grounds, including trimming trees, is ongoing.

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

January 8 — First Sunday after Epiphany

(The Baptism of Our Lord)

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

11:00 a.m. Forum with the Bishop followed by lunch

January 15 — Second Sunday after Epiphany

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Healing Service

January 22 — Third Sunday after Epiphany

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

January 29 — Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

February 5 — Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by potluck lunch

February 12 — Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by vestry meeting

February 19 — Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Healing Service

February 21 — Shrove Tuesday (Mardi Gars)

5 p.m. Pancake supper

February 22 — Ash Wednesday

TBA Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes

LENTEN WEDNESDAY EVENING SUPPERS

Beginning Wednesday, March 1, Epiphany will host a weekly speakers series during Lent like we did last year. The theme this year will be Creation Care. We hope to have representatives from various agencies in and around Crestview who will discuss how we can be better stewards of God's creation. As we did last year, the speakers will be preceded by a hearty soup dinner. More information will be forthcoming.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Annual March for MLK

Garden Park

(the corner of W. Field Avenue and S. Main Street)

Saturday, January 14

9:00 a.m.

NWFLC Project Opioid - Overdose Summit

Crestview Community Center

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

Registration Opens - 9:00 a.m.

Presentations - 10:00 a.m.

Lunch - 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 (box lunch provided)

Presentations & Breakout Sessions - 1:00 p.m.

Let's come together as a community to bring lasting change to the overdose crisis. All are invited to this Summit to learn how the overdose crisis is impacting our economy, our businesses, and our communities.

Chamber of Commerce Annual Valentine's Gala

February 11

6 p.m.

For more information, visit the Crestview Chamber of Commerce website (crestviewchamber.com).

News from Around the Diocese

DIOCESAN CONVENTION

The 52nd Annual Convention for the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast will be held March 2-4, at the University of West Florida in Pensacola. Epiphany will be represented by David Bryant as delegate and Maurice (Phil) Phillips as alternate delegate, each of whom was elected at our annual meeting in December. Father David will also represent Epiphany as a clergy delegate.



Anyone can attend the convention, view the various displays from the many ministries in the diocese, listen to speakers and worship during the daily services. A schedule of events will be available soon. If you have any questions, please let Father David know.

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

On Sunday, January 29, at 4:30 p.m., the Rt. Rev. J. Russell Kendrick will ordain the Rev. Deacon Amanda Doshier into the Sacred Order of Priests. The ordination service will be held at St. James Episcopal Church in Fairhope, Alabama. All are welcome to attend.

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PROJECT HOPE FLORIDA

We recently received the following letter from Project Hope Florida via the Office of Mayor J.B. Whitten:

To our dear neighbors,

We are facing a problem in our community that is shared throughout the country. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, food for home prices have increased by almost 11% since the observed year ended in April of 2022.

Since then, the prices for the commonly measured home staples that BLS uses to gauge this statistic such as dairy, eggs, fruits and vegetables have only continued to rise. Since the beginning of 2022, egg prices have increased 49%, butter has increased 27%, grain production is down worldwide due somewhat to the conflict in Ukraine and on. The truth is that most of the families we have been fortunate enough to assist find this to be underselling the price increase.

We understand that many food pantries are limited in the hours of the week in which they can operate, are short on volunteers and/or storage space or by location can not reach as many families as they would like. Our solution as a pantry agent of Feeding the Gulf Coast is simple, measurable and the most cost-effective of any in the county. We will purchase and stock dry goods at the agency discounted price of 70-85% off the dollar. We will combine those with our twice weekly pickups of bread from Flower's bakery to offer as complete a food box as can be composed for any family in need. We strongly believe that food assistance begins before there is an empty pantry and want to work with individual families to meet their realistic needs based on age group and household makeup.

We have now reached our monthly budgetary ceiling and need assistance from the community to extend past our limit of an average of 15 to 18 families per week. We are inviting our local churches to partner up in this expansion by committing to a \$100 monthly donation.

We have attached a simple breakdown of our vision and how the money can be spent and invite all ideas, insights and concerns you may have at any time. *(This breakdown was too long for The Clarion, but is posted on the Parish Hall bulletin board.)*

Ian J. Whitcomb

Donor Relations Coordinator

(346) 405-1299

ian@projecthoperc.net

Caring & Sharing

Epiphany is continuing its support for Sharing & Caring of Okaloosa County by collecting can goods and other items for those in need served by this United Way agency. A box is located near the kitchen in the Parish Hall where donated items can be placed.

The vestry renewed this ministry this past November, suggesting that parishioners drop off cans of food on the morning of our monthly potluck lunch, but these can be brought in anytime the church is open. A list of needed items can be found on the bulletin board.



From the book: *101 Reasons to be Episcopalian*

Our Eucharistic table is not made less special if all are invited, which is contrary to the understanding that I grew up with. Adjusting to the idea that everyone is invited to this most holy meal took me some time, but it has become one of the things I love most about the Church. Understanding that the true presence in the body of Christ is strong enough to survive inside someone who might seem less worthy requires more, not less, faith in its power. I am saddened that I cannot share in communion at my parents' church, and that they will not receive in mine, but I would rather be in that position than the other way around.

Susan P. Hackett, Diocese of Bethlehem



*New welcome banner at the
Entrance to the Parish Hall*

EPIPHANY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

January 11 — Mary Meehan

January 31 — Maximus Clark

Anniversaries

January 1 — Phil and Pam Phillips



EPIPHANY'S FAVORITE RECIPES

PASTA SALAD *by Mary Meehan*

Ingredients:

1 # rotini

1/2 # pepperoni (cut in half)

1/2 # mozzarella cut in chunks (I use the beads cut in half)

1 large green pepper, diced finely

1 can sliced black olives

6 ounces shredded Parmesan

8 ounces Italian dressing (I use Tuscan Italian)

Mix and chill.



Please remember in your prayers:

Adley Hipwell, Amy & Anthony Lehatto, Ashley, Bill Gilliam,
Brenda Montgomery, Casi Smith, David Knight, Debra Evans,
Dennis Jackson, Donna Andrews, Janice Tyler, Jeff Evans,
Jeremy McDaniels, Jill Potts, Julie Hill, Katie Furby,
Kei'Mari Martin, Layla, Mary Meehan, Nikole Webb,
Pam & Phil Phillips, Phyllis Alles, Raquel Briganti, Scott
Hudson, Steve & Buni O'Brien, Susan Cole and Sybil King,

For the departed

Pat Gillis and Jerry Frymire

The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany

424 Garden Street

Crestview, Florida 32536